

## MEETING NOTES

**NAME OF GROUP:** Urban Design Committee

**DATE, TIME AND**

**PLACE OF MEETING:** Wednesday, August 4, 2004, 3:00 p.m., Room 206, County-City Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 555 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

**MEMBERS AND OTHERS**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Members:** Michael Eckert, JoAnne Kissel, Third World Oforah, Dennis Scheer (arrived at 3:10 p.m.), Gordon Scholz, Scott Sullivan and Kim Todd present.

**Others:** Scott Grummert (Lazarri's Pizza); Mark Canney (Parks & Recreation); Kent Morgan, Ed Zimmer, Michele Abendroth (Planning Department)

**STATED PURPOSE**

**OF THE MEETING:** Regular Meeting of the Urban Design Committee

Mr. Scholz called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

### **Approval of Meeting Notes April 7, 2004 and June 2, 2004**

Mr. Eckert moved approval of the April 7, 2004 and June 2, 2004 meeting notes, seconded by Mr. Oforah. Motion carried 5-0; Eckert, Kissel, Oforah, Scholz, and Sullivan voting 'yes'; Todd abstaining; Scheer absent.

### **Update on Downtown Master Plan**

Kent Morgan stated that the process of putting together a new downtown master plan has begun. The latest plan was developed 30 years ago. This project is a joint project with the City and the Downtown Lincoln Association. They will undertake several projects including a market analysis, a transportation plan and a bicycle facilities plan. The consultant for this project is Crandall Arambula out of Portland, Oregon along with two sub-consultants. The process is estimated to be completed in 8-10 months.

The public involvement process consists of two major components, including the Downtown Action Team, which is made up of 22 members, and a series of three community workshops.

Mr. Oforah asked if this study takes precedence over the Angelou study. Mr. Morgan replied that the consultants will review the Angelou study to see how the two studies relate.

Ms. Kissel commented that the Haymarket streetscape should be interfaced with this process.

Mr. Scholz asked if there are other parts of the process where the Urban Design Committee should be involved. Mr. Morgan stated that they will bring information back to this Committee as necessary.

### **Banners for Antelope Creek Bridges (AV Design Team)**

Scott Sullivan stated that the first bridge near Military Road is near completion. He presented a drawing of a banner design. Conceptually, the bridge will be completed in time for the state fair. It was suggested

to have a unified banner program. As the projects are completed, the banners will be hung, and they will see what kind of response they get. One of the issues is the length of the banners. They originally proposed the bottom bracket to be at 8 1/2 feet, but now they are considering 10 feet. Proportionally, he feels the longer banner looks better, but the issue of vandalism at the lower bracket height is a concern. He noted the purpose of the banners is to advertise the project.

Ms. Todd made a motion to approve the banners at the shorter banner length, seconded by Mr. Scheer. Eckert, Kissel, Oforah, Scholz, Todd, and Scheer voting 'yes'; Sullivan abstaining.

### **Recommendation on sidewalk café , Lazzari's & Downtown Bar (1434 O Street)**

Neal Grummert stated that he is the owner of Lazzari's pizza and Downtown bar. He is requesting a sidewalk café as he would like the extra seating. The two businesses are on one piece of property and are actually considered one business. They separate the names so they can serve late-night pizza at Lazzari's. The exterior areas will be separated, but there is an interior door connecting the two businesses. He noted that everyone he has spoken with has supported this application, except for the Police Department.

Mr. Zimmer reviewed the sidewalk café ordinance. For a bar to have a sidewalk café, they have to have a full kitchen. If this is considered two businesses, Lazzari's would be eligible, but Downtown Bar isn't. Mr. Grummert stated that he would forgo the liquor license to have the café. Mr. Grummert added that he feels the fenced area will help with crowd control as well.

Mr. Oforah stated that if we will allow this, other people will want to do this as well. This Committee is concerned with pedestrian movement, but he feels they should be given this opportunity.

Mr. Zimmer stated that the Police Captain's concern is the large crowds on a very small sidewalk, and she feels that she cannot endorse this application due to the increased obstacles.

Ms. Todd moved approval of the application, seconded by Mr. Oforah.

Mr. Sullivan asked for clarification on the functions of the two businesses. Mr. Grummert responded that Lazzari's serves late-night pizza, but the liquor laws state that if you have open liquor bottles, you cannot serve food after 1:15 a.m. Since they are connected, they close them off so they can continue to serve pizza after 1:15 a.m. at Lazzari's.

Mr. Scheer stated that he is inclined to believe that there could be problems with the café on the Downtown Bar side. He asked Mr. Grummert if he would consider having the sidewalk café in front of Lazzari's only. Mr. Grummert replied that he would.

Mr. Sullivan questioned if it is the function of this Committee to consider legal issues or only the urban design issues.

Ms. Kissel requested a more detailed site plan, including the gas lanterns, the tables and chairs, and fence design.

Ms. Todd called the question on voting on the motion. Eckert, Kissel, Oforah, Scholz, Sullivan, and Todd voting 'yes'; Scheer voting 'no'.

The motion made in support of the application passed 5-2. Eckert, Oforah, Scholz, Todd, and Scheer voting 'yes'; Kissel and Sullivan voting 'no'.

Mr. Zimmer stated that he will bring information to the Committee if necessary.

**Miscellaneous and upcoming items**

Mr. Zimmer stated that upcoming items include the Antelope Valley PUD overlay and design standards and the Neighborhood Design Standards.

Mr. Scholz adjourned the meeting at 4:11 p.m.